General Books Division

Legal, Technical, and Consumer Group
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Telephone 212/337-5998

McGraw-Hill Book Company

February 9, 1989

Mr. Harold Weisberg
7627 Old Receiver Road
Frederick, Maryland 21701

Dear Mr. Weisberg:

I am sorry you have felt it necessary to write a second time with complaints regarding MAFIA KINGFISH. When I received your first letter, about two weeks ago, I sent a copy to John Davis and asked him to let me know whether he would prefer to send a book to you directly or to have us send one. I am just back from vacation now and have not yet had a chance to follow up on this matter. We are truly grateful for any assistance you provided Mr. Davis (without, I must say, much specific knowledge of it) and will be glad to provide this small token--though, regrettably, our being out of stock at the moment may delay this a few weeks longer.

As for the other complaints raised in your letter of February 4, I can assure you that a copy of that letter is being forwarded to Mr. Davis immediately, and we will make any corrections he feels are necessary before subsequent reprinting. I would also like to say, in response to your objection to the book's lack of footnotes, that our decision to publish the book without footnotes (but instead with a comprehensive outline of sources) was made upon considering the interests of the majority of Mr. Davis's likely readers as well as the significant impact lengthy notes would make on the book's list price and bulk. Certainly this was not thought to be somehow a "safer way"--indeed, we and Mr. Davis regretted that we were thus prevented from facilitating further research by scholars of the subjects covered in MAFIA KINGFISH.

If I can be of further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me again.

Sincerely,

Lisa Frost
Editor

cc: John H. Davis

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